2/20/72

Dear Mr. Kuralt:

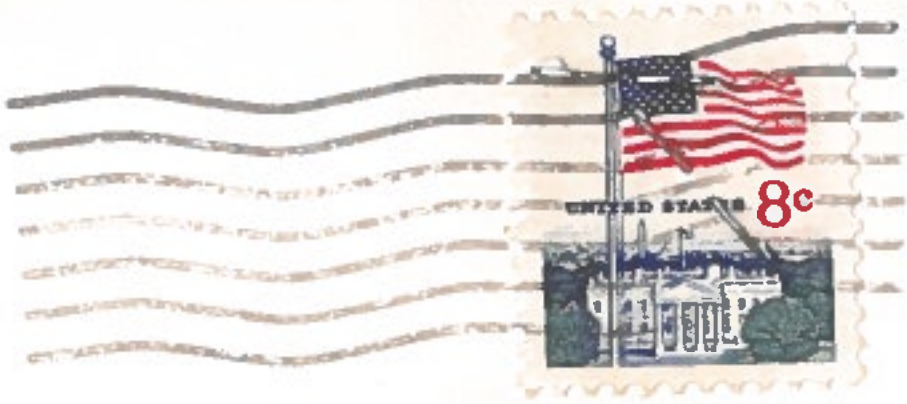
Watching the T.V. program "Misunderstanding China" on CBS. to-night, I was amazed how few of the Chinese people wore glasses. After I became aware of it I only counted around 25. From the very young to the very very old there were no glasses. Since you are always "some place" looking into "something" I thought you might have an answer to my observation on the above program

Please do not think this was all the program meant to me. It was most enlighten.

Sincerely

Dorothy Havery

D HAVERY
89 MARBLE AV
PLEASANTVILLE NY 10570



Mr. Charles Kuralt
C.B.S. T.V. Station
New York, N.Y.

February 20, 1972

Mr. Charles Kuralt —
Columbia Broadcasting System
New York City, New York

Dear Mr. Kuralt —

The program you narrated this afternoon, "Misunderstanding China," was Terrific! Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in putting that program together. It made me feel that at last broadcast journalism, network TV, and my country are coming of age — to maturity.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth N. Munger

John F. Rhame, Jr.
Director of Advertising
and Information

Western Electric

February 22, 1972

Mr. R. C. Mayo, Director
CBS
51 W. 52nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Bob:

This past Sunday evening I was enthralled by "Misunderstanding China." It seems to me that all of you who worked on this program showed more than the usual sensitivity in dealing with the quite difficult subject. I'm sure that the thinking audience who watched this show must have been moved to self-examination of their prejudices and misconceptions.

Congratulations to all concerned on what I am sure will be rated as one of CBS' best productions.

Sincerely,

Public Relations Division
195 Broadway, New York, New York 10007 / 212 571-2550

CBS
TELEVISION
NETWORK
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
51 West 52 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear John:

Now that the President is back in his White House from the historic journey to China, I want to thank you very much for your thoughtful letter of February 22, with respect to "Misunderstanding China". We appreciate your reaction to this effort and are extremely pleased that you and your colleagues believed sufficiently in it, to be identified as sponsors of the project.

We, too, feel it was unusual treatment of one of the most misunderstood issues of our time.

I am taking the liberty of passing your gracious remarks along to our news executives and those involved in the production of the program. Hope you are available for the news luncheon on Friday at the Plaza. Look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Mayo
Director of News Programming Sales

Mr. John F. Rhame, Jr.
Director of Advertising and Information
Western Electric
Public Relations Division
195 Broadway
New York, New York 10007

February 29, 1972

afm

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Victor Nee:

I'm not really surprised by the surprise of your friends but television documentaries are made by individuals, not by corporations. That doesn't mean the individual always prevails, but he doesn't always lose either!

In any case, I'm pleased by the response to the "Misunderstanding China" broadcast and I appreciate very much your taking the time and interest to write.

I hope all goes well. All my best.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. Victor Nee
6822 Silver Beach Circle
Huntington Beach, California

March 23, 1972

March 7, 1972
6822 Silver Beach Cir.
Huntington Beach, California

Mr. Irv Drasnin
CBS News
524 West 57 Street
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Irv Drasnin:

I just wanted to tell you how much people around here enjoyed your program. I've heard nothing but favorable comments, most people were surprised that something so good could come out of CBS.

Sincerely yours,

Victor Nee

or Nee
Hyde Street
Francisco, C

Irv Drasnin
CBS News
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019

35 W. 45 57

Edwin H. Blum

801 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210

275-6690

2/20/72

Mr. Chas. Kurrault
CBS News
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Kurrault:

On witnessing your presentation on China on tonight's show, I must compliment you on setting an historic landmark in the total story of T.V. news coverage.

Your coverage was penetrating, honest, and presented with great taste and total understanding of the entire complex problem.

It is a pity that Cronkite and Sevareid and the others on the regular news programs do not seem to have the total historic grasp that you have demonstrated.

They are nitpickers. You should have gone to China.

Thank you, thank you,

Edwin H Blum

SUN
Feb 20

4670

Just Watched "Misunderstanding China." That show is a classic - and the timing of it was perfect.

Congrats to Western Electric too.

You guys have moved world peace ahead with that kind of presentation to a mass American audience. I'd love to meet the people who put it together.

Vaya con Dios

Clyde Mowrer
Asst. Prof. of Communicatio
Mich. State Univ.

1103-A Lawrence St.
Radford, Va. 24141
Feb. 20, 1972

[redacted]

Gentlemen:

Your TV Special "Misunderstanding China" is just about the best documentary ever presented on TV! Congratulations and commendations!

I just hope it has been as enlightening to others in America as it has been to me. I shall view President Nixon's trip in a somewhat different way, and I shall have a new view of (and interest in) modern day China. As you said, "My views have changed!" Thank you, and Western Electric.

Sincerely,
Pauline Anderson

Feb. 20, 1972

Mr. C. Kuralt and Mr. I. Drasnin
CBS News
New York, N. Y..

Dear Mr. Kuralt and Mr. Drasnin:

We enjoyed and learned much from your program of "Misunderstanding China"..We think that it is a very thorough, thoughtful, and educational production and we like to thank you for your good work..

Sincerely yours,

Stanley S. Tseng

Stanley S. Tseng, M. D.

712 Bridgeman Terrace
Towson, Md.

Prevention

Don C. Matchan, West Coast Editor, P.O. Box 666, San Carlos, Ca. 94070

Feb. 25, 1972

Dear Charles Kuralt,

Am so happy Terrence O'Flaherty did the column of quotes on your extraordinary program Monday night. We just happened to get it - and I told my wife, "I must write him to tell him what a service he has performed!"

A few years ago I was fairly deep in a study of China - almost started a magazine dealing with the issue because I consider that what has happened there, and a sane relationship between China and the United States, crucial in world history.

Your program was magnificent. God bless you and CBS for the research, and the integrity.

Warmly,

Don Matchan

Don C. Matchan

DCM/hs

John Bowne HIGH SCHOOL

63-25 Main Street
Flushing, N.Y. 11367
BOulevard 3-1919

BOARD of EDUCATION • CITY of NEW YORK

WALTER H. WOLFF
Principal

Feb. 21, 1972

Mr. Charles Kuralt
CBS News
WCBS-TV
51 W. 52 St.
N.Y.C. 10019

Dear Mr. Kuralt:

It's not often that I'm moved to write and compliment the developers of a telecast. However, this time I decided to write even before your program ended. Misunderstanding China was one of the best programs I have ever seen. It was thorough, well researched, detailed, documented and told in good taste. I was sorry to see it end. I certainly hope your sponsors will consider repeating it. It deserves the widest possible exposure.

I thank you for your concern and interest in topics of significance. Best of luck in your work.

Sincerely,

Albert Rosenthal

Albert Rosenthal
Assistant Principal

R.H.A. Dales
206 Forestdale Drive
Taylors, S.C., 29687

February 21, 1972

Columbia Broadcasting System
C.B.S. News: " 60 Minutes"
Attn: Producer "Misunderstanding China"
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

We were delighted to see and hear your above production Sunday night, February 20.

We consider both, the pictures as well as the narrative outstanding and trust that your enlightening news will help our President's mission and the creation of an era of better understanding between the new world of China and the New World on this side of the oceans.

We admire especially your capability of compressing so much thought and the salient facts of recent history in proper sequence in so little time.

Sincerely,

Mr and Mrs Reinier H.A. Dales

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND FINE ARTS
UNIVERSITY PARK
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007
746-2725

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

30 March 1976

Mr. Irv Drasnin
CBS News
35 West 45th Street
N.Y., N.Y., 10036

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

On behalf of our students and faculty of USC and UCLA Extension I send appreciation to you and to CBS for the showing of Misunderstanding China. We will return the film by air express tomorrow.

Seeing it a second time I am again impressed by its great power as a visual challenge to our conscience. It is a great credit to all who produced it and in keeping with the public service role we have come to expect from CBS.

Thanks, cheers,

Sincerely,

Sam T. Hurst

Sam T. Hurst, F.A.I.A.
Professor of Architecture

STH/gg

cc: Dorothy Jones
Ronnie Rubin

Dear Mr. Kuralt—

Re your TV program on the history of China — it was prejudiced and tendentious.

Suggest you read John T. Flynn's book on the subject. It shows how we listened to the Red traitors in our midst who sold us out.

Sincerely, Viewer

BRONX, NY
PM
23 FEB
1972
6A

Mr. Charles Kuralt
c/o WCBS-TV
51 West 52nd St.
New York, N.Y.

UNI

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA · Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

R. S. Newell
Department of History
AREA 319 273-2097

February 24, 1972

President, CBS News
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I want to take a few minutes off to commend your organization for the excellence of its documentary "Misunderstanding China" which was narrated by Charles Kuralt on Feb. 21st. Its timeliness is obvious enough. What won my gratitude and admiration was its effectiveness in nailing down in graphic strokes our persisting insistence on going off half cocked about China. The use of old movie clips was a stroke of genius; especially using the death of Steve McQueen in the "Sand Pebbles" as a transition into an analysis of what has gone wrong since we tried to take the Chinese under our wing in the late nineteenth century.

The selection of film, the editing, and the narration were excellent. As a college professor specializing in Asia I would hope that CBS will be able to make tapes or films of the program available for school and community use. No matter what happens in Peking this week, the message you put over is likely to remain pertinent for some time to come.

Sincerely yours,

Richard S. Newell
Assoc. Prof. History

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Richard S. Salant, President

Dear Professor Newell:

We are all deeply grateful to you for your thoughtfulness in writing so generously about "Misunderstanding China."

It is our hope that some outside company will make that program available for distribution to schools and communities.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Richard S. Newell
University of Northern Iowa
Department of History
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

February 28, 1972

bcc Messrs. Leonard, Drasnin, Byrne

DEAR SIRS:

WE GREATLY ENJOY BEING ON THE ROAD WITH CHARLES KURALT ANYWHERE, BUT WE WERE PARTICULARLY PLEASED AND IMPRESSED WITH HIS TREATMENT OF THE POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO OUR "MISUNDERSTANDING CHINA". IT WAS AN EXCELLENT PRESENTATION.

SINCERELY,
MR. & MRS. MICHAEL KITA

P.S. THE C.B.S. NEWS PRODUCTION "YOU ARE THERE" WHICH WE HAVE REDISCOVERED ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AFTER WONDERING WHY IT WENT OFF THE AIR SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, WILL FIND US CONSTANT VIEWERS. IT IS ONE OF THE OCCASIONALLY WORTHWHILE SHOWS ON T.V. TODAY.

Dear Mr. Kuralt—
Re your T V program on the history of China — it was prejudiced and tendentious.
Suggest you read John T. Flynn's book on the subject. It shows how we listened to the Red traitors in our midst who sold us out.
Sincerely, Viewer

Dear Sir:

Who wrote that History of China ~~xxxx~~ disquisition for you--Mao or Chou? It was certainly slanted port side. You should realize that to people with a modicum of intelligence and a certain sense of history such a perverted twisting of the truth is an insult.

Sincerely,

J.L.

CBS

Dear Irv:

See, some people give you credit for "Misunderstanding China."

Jim Byrne

15 GRAMERCY PARK
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10003

Jim [illegible] for reply

H. Kalmt

Feb. 21, 1972

The President
Columbia Broadcasting System
51 west 52nd St.
New York

Dear Sir:

In your program, "Misunderstanding China," telecast last night, you allowed your scriptwriter, Irving Drasin, to make the following statement (the wording is approximate):

"For the past 22 years the American and Chinese people have known about each other only what their governments have allowed them to know."

One wouldn't expect such a ludicrous statement from anyone except a Russian communist who had never been out of Moscow and had never read any foreign publications. Even a moderately sophisticated communist would acknowledge the difference between the totally controlled Chinese press and the variety of information available to American readers. Where has Mr. Drasin been for the past 22 years? And didn't any responsible person read his script before Charles Kuralt came on the air with it?

Left-wingers have the right to broadcast put-downs of the United States. CBS does not have the right to broadcast such a vicious lie about the U.S. under the guise of public information, public service programming.

Very truly yours,

Stephanie Durkin

Copy to
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

February 22, 1972

Mr. Irv Drasnin
Producer
C. B. S. News
524 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

Thanks for your letter of February 9 alerting me to your "Misunderstanding China." I had a chance to see the film--in a Chinese restaurant in Boston (where I was attending a friend's wedding feast), no less--and found it exceptionally well done. That last sequence of the American soldier heroically hoisting the Chinese girl onto his horse from Fifty-five Days in Peking leaves one clutching the stomach. But then, I expect we may have some contemporary dignitaries returning home in similar fashion on high horses.

I'll be back in Ann Arbor over the summer. If I can be of any future assistance let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Richard H. Solomon

solomon
3720 Williams Lane
Chevy Chase, Md. 20015

35W45

Mr. Irv Drasnin
Producer
C.B.S. News
~~524 West 57~~th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Pam

Dear Dick:

I appreciate very much your thoughtful note and your most generous remarks regarding "Misunderstanding China."

I'm glad to know that it was Charlton Heston, and not the MSG syndrome, that left you clutching your stomach!

I hope all goes well in Washington and that we will have the occasion to meet again.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. Richard H. Solomon
National Security Council
Washington, D.C. 20506

March 1, 1972